GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4223
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002
DAILY WAGES TO AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS
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Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether daily wages at different rates are being paid to the agricultural and industrial labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the different rates prevailing in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether any increase has been effected in their daily wages during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for different rates in the different States?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN)

(a) & (b): Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Government to fix, revise and enforce minimum wages in respect of workers engaged in the scheduled employments under their respective jurisdictions. Agriculture is a scheduled employment both in the Central and the State sphere. A statement showing State-wise minimum wages of the agricultural workers is enclosed as Annexure-I. As regards industrial workers a State-wise statement showing annual wages compiled on the basis of the latest data published in the Annual Survey of Industries, 1998-99 is enclosed as Annexure-II.

(c) & (d): The Central Government last raised the basic minimum wages of agricultural workers with effect from 11.11.1999. The wages range between Rs.67/- and Rs.101/-. The State Governments have been revising the minimum wages in agriculture from time to time. There is disparity in the rates of minimum wages in the country because the factors like cost of living, productivity, paying capacity, agro-climatic and socio-economic conditions, on which fixation and revision of the minimum wages depend, vary from region to region.